RESOLUTION NO. 14-01

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN OPEN MEETINGS

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF ST. LEO, FLORIDA PROVIDING REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON ANY PROPOSITION OR SUBJECT MATTER BEFORE THE TOWN COMMISSION IN ADVANCE OF OFFICIAL ACTION BEING TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 286.0114, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AS TO THE PUBLIC'S PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC MEETINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Leo, Florida, is a municipality created pursuant to a charger established by the legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Leo, Florida, operates in conformance with its charter, the Florida Constitution and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the Commission of the Town of St. Leo are open to the public and conducted with accordance with Chapter 286.0114, Florida Statutes, except as otherwise exempted by Florida law; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 286.0114 effective October 1, 2013, Florida law has been broadened to insure that members of the public are given reasonable opportunity to be heard on any proposition or subject matter before a board in advance of such public board taking action on any such proposition or subject matter.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF ST. LEO, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. <u>Findings of Fact:</u> The Town Commission hereby adopts the "whereas" clauses stated above as findings of fact in support of this Resolution.
- 2. <u>Authority:</u> This Resolution is adopted pursuant to the Town's charter and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes.
- 3. Rights of the Public to be Heard at Public Meetings: In accordance with Section 286.0994, Florida Statutes, it shall be the policy of the Commission to provide an opportunity for the public to be heard at, and participate in, any public meeting of the Commission as defined in Section 286.011(1), Florida Statutes.
- 4. Procedures:

- a. A specific period shall be designated for comment and participation on the part of the public at all public meetings of the Commission; which period shall be indicated on the meeting agendas.
- b. Individual comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes or as otherwise granted by the Commission.
- c. There may be occasions whereby the Commission will provide an opportunity for the public to be heard on a proposition or subject matter during a workshop meeting, although, no action will be taken by the Commission at such workshop.
- 5. <u>Severability:</u> If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, provision or part of this Resolution is determined invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.
- 6. <u>Effective Date:</u> This Resolution 14-01 shall take effect immediately upon adoption by majority vote of the Town Commission and shall remain in effect until amended, rescinded or superseded by Resolution of the Town Commission or as otherwise dictated by Florida law.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Town of St. Leo Town Commission vote as follows:

John "Jack" Gardner, Mayor Sister Donna DeWitt, O.S.B. Brother James Hallett, O.S.B. Robert Inslee James Wells

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS BY DAY OF NO. 2014.

ATTEST:

Joan Miller, MMC, Town Clerk

John "Jack" Gardner, Mayor Robert Inslee, Mayor ProTem

Approved as to form by:

Patricia Petruff, Esquire, Town Attorney

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